



# TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

## FREE INTERACTIVE STATEWIDE LIVESTREAM EVENT FOR LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS

### SEMINAR INFORMATION

Date **Saturday, March 27, 2021**  
Location **Livestream Event**  
Course Director **Anne Burnham**  
Total CLE Hours **3.50** Ethics: **1.0**

<b>Time</b>	<b>CLE</b>	<b>Topic ~ Speaker</b>
11:00 am		<i>Opening Remarks</i> ~ <b>Anne Burnham and Grant Scheiner</b>
11:05 am	1.5	<b>General Advice &amp; Overview of Criminal Defense Law Practice ~ Bobby Mims and Monique Sparks</b>  <b>Discussion Panel</b> TCDLA lawyers discuss the different pathways they took to their criminal defense practices; public defender, solo practitioner, work for firm, etc. Q & A opportunity. (how will introductions work?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Started in DA's Office Attorney ~ <b>Stephanie Alvarado</b></li><li>• Started in PD/TRLA/RDPO Office ~ <b>Jessica Canter</b></li><li>• Started a Solo Practice right out of law school ~ <b>Mark Griffith</b></li><li>• Started on court appointments – advice to make that work ~ <b>Betty Blackwell</b></li><li>• Joined an urban established criminal defense firm ~ <b>Monroe Solomon III</b></li><li>• Advice on working in a rural general practice firm as pathway to criminal defense ~ <b>Steve Keathley</b></li><li>• Started in General Law Firm and gravitated to criminal defense ~ <b>Rusty Gunter</b></li><li>• Started career as law clerk in firm and as federal judicial law clerk ~ <b>Cynthia Orr</b></li></ul>
12:26 pm	1.0 <i>Ethics</i>	<b>Ethics You Need to Know – How to Keep Your Law License</b> a. Can you do criminal work? (Sexual assault, priors, representing the guilty, personal past related to cases – recognize personal baggage). b. Wellness/life balance (triggers/stressors, TLAP; and an inspirational story). c. Ethical ways to market, how to handle fees, IOLTA accounts, how grievances work-things to avoid. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can you do criminal defense work -- sexual assault cases, representing clients with priors, representing the guilty, personal past related to cases recognize personal baggage; ethical ways to market, how to handle fees, IOLTA accounts, how grievances work –things to avoid, <b>Betty Blackwell</b></li><li>• Wellness/life balance, triggers, stressors and inspirational story, <b>Paul Tu</b></li><li>• Texas Lawyers Assistance Programs, <b>Rick Wardroup</b></li></ul>
1:20 pm		<i>Move to Breakouts</i>
1:25 pm	.75	<b>Breakouts: Practice Focus Areas</b> Interact with criminal defense attorneys about their practice focuses (e.g., juvenile law, DWI, criminal defense within general practice firm, rural criminal defense practice, etc....). Again, bring your questions. See registration form for which area to start in. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. DWI/Drug/Forensics ~ <b>Lisa Gonzalez, Phil Baker, Rick Wardroup</b></li><li>2. Family Violence ~ <b>Staci Krause, Shane Phelps</b></li></ol>



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3. State Cases/Felonies ~ **Brandon Ball, Patty Tress**
4. Federal Criminal Defense ~ **Craig Jett, Bobby Mims**
5. Starting Your Own General Criminal Defense Practice ~ **Jeffrey Shearer, Laurie Key**
6. Investigation, Pre-Indictment, Trial, Direct Appeal, Habeas ~ **Michael Gross, Angela Moore**
7. Sexual Assault ~ **Heather Barbieri, Mark Griffith**
8. Indigent Defense/ Mental Health Issues/ Specialty Courts practice/ Immigration Issues ~ **Dwight McDonald, Suzanne Spencer**
9. Juvenile Practice ~ **Stephanie Stevens, Steven Halpert**

2:10 pm

*Move to breakouts*

2:15 pm

.75

#### **Breakouts: Know Where You Want to Practice – Geographical Areas**

Interact with criminal defense attorneys from various geographical areas to learn the local practices, customs, court procedures, including information on how to get court appointments.

1. DFW Metroplex ~ **Stephanie Alvarado, Robert Gill**
2. East Texas ~ **Mishae Boren, Jonathan Hyatt**
3. Houston Area ~ **Grant Scheiner**
4. San Antonio/Hill Country ~ **Michael Gross, Ted Wenske**
5. Corpus, Valley, Laredo ~ **Jessica Canter, Lisa Greenberg, Roberto Balli**
6. Austin ~ **Betty Blackwell, Amber Vazquez**
7. Waco area ~ **Stan Schweiger, Jessica Freud**
8. Panhandle (Amarillo/Abilene/Lubbock/Wichita Falls) ~ **Laurie Key, Dustin Nimz**
9. El Paso/Midland ~ **Jeep Darnell**

3:00 pm

*Adjourn*